

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	§	
Wipfel et al	§	
	§	
Serial No.: Continuation of 09/731,422	§	Group Art Unit: 2151
	§	
Filed: Herewith	§	
	§	
For: METHOD FOR DETECTING AND	§	Examiner:
RESOLVING A PARTITION	§	
CONDITION IN A CLUSTER	§	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents  
Box NEW APPLICATION  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above application please enter the following:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the Abstract paragraph in its entirety and add the following:

- - A method and system to detect and resolve a partition condition in a cluster of computers in a networked environment is described. The method can include: creating a scratch pad area accessible by the cluster of computers; dividing the scratch pad into a plurality of slots; recording in the plurality of slots, a generation number and a list of known nodes by each one of the plurality of notes, wherein an identifier is written in the list for each node that is known to a writing node; comparing each slot of the plurality of slots to ensure the generation number and the list of known nodes matches in each slot of the plurality of slots; and

resolving the partition condition by creating a list of surviving nodes and re-allocating appropriate resources to each of the surviving nodes. - -

Respectfully submitted,



David L. McCombs  
Reg. No. 32,271

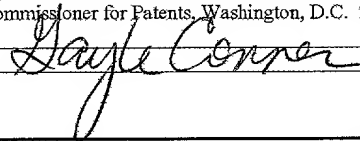
Dated: 6-12-01

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D-906217

EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EL828065003US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: 6-12-01

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